

# **EXHIBIT 60**

**In the Matter Of:**

*In Re: 568 President's Group*

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*CHARLES DEACON*

*May 18, 2022*

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1 CHARLES A. DEACON (5/18/22)

2 office?

3 A. Their assessment comes back to  
4 us in the form of a total rating. If  
5 they're -- there are four people on the  
6 committee, which that's the normal  
7 committee and each assign ten points.  
8 They'll give us these 100 or whatever  
9 number they've read, in order from 40 on  
10 down, from the highest rated on down.  
11 Based upon how many spaces we have  
12 available to confirm for admit, we will  
13 then draw the line at that point in time  
14 and those above the line will be admitted,  
15 those below will be deferred.

16 Q. So it's safe to assume that you  
17 would rely on their rating in order to  
18 admit students or deny students or defer  
19 students, I should say, at this stage?

20 A. Yes, that's correct. Their  
21 rating is the final step for them, for  
22 those candidates.

23 Q. So this goes back to your  
24 office, you do the cutoff. Anything that  
25 happens after that cutoff?

CHARLES A. DEACON (5/18/22)

A. There are a few students that are in that pool that might be flagged for special consideration at the senior level of the university. Normally, we do that at regular decision but there are some that are flagged for early. If they were a close call, they can then be -- they can then be admitted into a separate category of space that is reserved for them.

Q. What categories of students fall into these flag students?

A. Anybody who makes their way up to the top level from whatever source. Most likely people that are, you know, recommended by key university people, advancement office, talks to the president office maybe or the directors people may talk to the president's office, very, very, very -- I would say three or four cases might be moved at that point in time into an accept.

Q. Do these different groups have the benefit of seeing the student's submission or is it a process completely

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2 separate from --

3 A. The --

4 Q. -- from reviewing the  
5 application?

6 A. If the information is  
7 communicated to a staff member of the  
8 president's office, that person sees it and  
9 I presume shares it with the president, I  
10 would assume. I don't share it with the  
11 president. They do.

12 Q. So if I understand correctly,  
13 the president, board of directors might  
14 say, hey, I'm interested in Joe Smith, then  
15 you would forward the file to a specific  
16 person in that office and they do whatever  
17 process internally they do?

18 A. Not the file, just the roster  
19 information that I do the ratings from.

20 Q. They only see the ratings as  
21 opposed to the transcripts and the essays  
22 and things like that?

23 A. That's correct.

24 Q. If the president then comes and  
25 says, hey, I want this person admitted,

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2 then it would be an automatic admission  
3 into the early access stage, correct?

4 A. Not automatic. I have the  
5 opportunity to make a case why not. So for  
6 example, if the case is far off the mark  
7 and we have -- let's take my example of the  
8 [REDACTED] example, we have 75 people.

9 This was number 75 of the 75. I might make  
10 the case that that would not be a wise  
11 decision to admit and they might decide not  
12 to.

13 Q. Let's say you push back and  
14 they are insistent on being admitted, the  
15 student would ultimately be admitted?

16 A. The final authority is in the  
17 president or the board, not me. I'm not  
18 the final authority. I do my best to make  
19 the case.

20 Q. Understood. How frequently --  
21 let me back up.

22 How many students a year more  
23 or less does the president request special  
24 consideration for?

25 A. Well, he might -- he might

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2 request it for a lot, but the policy  
3 restricts it to five percent, so  
4 five percent of 1600 is 80.

5 At early, that might only be  
6 two or three, because we all -- university  
7 accepts the fact that early action is for  
8 the very best and brightest, so it should  
9 not be for a weaker candidate.

10 Q. Who determines this policy of  
11 five percent?

12 A. That's been in place for 60  
13 years. It was put in place by -- when the  
14 admissions committees were first formed.

15 They then -- they then created  
16 an executive committee with one faculty  
17 member from each committee going to it and  
18 they -- they then carved out some policies  
19 that they felt all four schools should  
20 adhere to, one of which was the so-called  
21 special interest cases.

22 And that they -- that they --  
23 that was referred -- you know, the provost  
24 at the time got that and they've accepted  
25 it, so I guess you could say it's a policy

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2 that's in place that's been there, but not  
3 -- not coming down from the top down, but  
4 rather from a committee up and not been  
5 changed.

6 Q. Who has the authority to change  
7 that policy?

8 A. Well, I would guess that -- I  
9 would think the president.

10 Q. So --

11 A. I operate within -- we operate  
12 within that policy.

13 Q. Understood. So the president  
14 sends down a list, these are the students I  
15 would like special consideration for. On  
16 average, how many students a year do you  
17 push back and say I don't think this is a  
18 wise idea?

19 A. It may be five or ten.

20 Q. Out of -- five or ten students  
21 or 5 or 10 percent?

22 A. Five or ten students out of the  
23 ultimate 80 or so cases that come my way.  
24 Most of them come as regular decision, that  
25 is 1st of April time.



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2 Q. So let me back up. Most of the  
3 80 come out of the regular admissions  
4 process, not the early action program?

5 A. Right, because we -- because  
6 everybody including the president tries his  
7 best to recognize the importance of the  
8 academic excellence of the early pool and  
9 that's different from many colleges by the  
10 way, that can be confusing to some people.

11 Q. How many does the president  
12 request specifically during the early  
13 action program?

14 A. Might just be one or two.

15 Q. And do you generally push back  
16 at this stage?

17 A. Generally not, because mostly,  
18 all -- he would only probably recommend  
19 someone who was very close to that kind of  
20 a standard.

21 Q. Understood.

22 A. But if not, I would push back.

23 Q. Are there any other list of  
24 special considerations from other  
25 departments at the university?